

Name: _____

Class: _____

Every organism in an ecosystem has a role to play, some have many roles. The role of an organism within an ecosystem is called a _____.

The first two _____ explain how an organism gets its food. Plants (and algae) get energy from the sun. By getting energy from the sun, plants can produce their own food. Organisms that produce their own food are called _____. All other organisms are required to eat or drink to get their nourishment. These organisms are called _____; they consume something to get energy.

All _____ get their energy from plants (from the sun). Some animals get energy exclusively from plants, we call these animals _____. _____, such as a rabbit, do not eat any meat. There are other animals that get energy from both plants and meat. These animals are called _____. An example of an _____ is a bear, a bear will eat fish and will eat berries. The remaining animals are animals that get their energy indirectly from plants; they eat meat, which comes from other animals that have eaten the plants. The animals that eat only meat, such as a lion, are called _____.

When animals eat other animals there are two more _____ that are used to describe the animals involved. An animal who hunts another animal for food is called a _____. A _____ catches and kills its _____. _____ refers to an animal that is hunted. Plants are not _____, and herbivores are not _____. An example of a _____ and _____ are an owl and a mouse. The owl hunts the mouse, the owl is the _____ and the mouse is the _____.

The last two _____ describe special kinds of _____, they are organisms that get their energy from dead or decaying organisms. _____ are organisms that eat dead plants or animals. A vulture is an example of a _____. _____ are like _____, however they do not eat the decaying bodies, they simply break down the dead or decaying material and absorb the energy. Mould and fungus are examples of _____.

A single organism will have many _____. A frog will eat a fly and it will be eaten by a snake. The frog is then a _____, a _____, a _____ and a _____.

